Interim Enforcement Policy - Gloves

Background

On September 1, 2004 the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 170 was revised to allow the use of glove liners by handlers and early entry field workers. An exemption for pilots wearing gloves when entering or leaving an aircraft used to apply pesticides was also added. See the attached excerpt from the CFR for the complete wording of the federal revisions.

DPR recommends

The Department plans to revise the Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 6738 to reflect the changes made to the CFR. Since these changes were made to increase compliance by making the use of PPE more comfortable, the Department is recommending that county agricultural commissioners (CAC) allow the use of glove liners and the pilot exemption under the conditions listed in this letter until 3CCR section 6738 is revised to reflect the federal standard.

Conditions of use

The use of glove liners is allowed only when the following conditions are met:

- Pesticide product labeling does not prohibit the use of glove liners.
- Glove liners must be separable from the chemical resistant glove.
- Liners may not extend outside of the chemical-resistant gloves.
- Liners must be must be replaced immediately if directly contacted by a pesticide.
- Liners must be discarded at the end of each workday.
- Contaminated liners must be disposed of in accordance with federal, state or local regulations.

Pilots

The wearing of chemical-resistant gloves when entering or leaving an aircraft used to apply a pesticide is optional, unless such gloves are required on the pesticide product labeling. If gloves are brought into the cockpit of an aircraft that has been used to apply pesticides, the gloves must be kept in an enclosed container that prevents contamination of the inside of the cockpit.

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Interim Enforcement Policy - Gloves, Continued

Enforcement

As stated before, the Department recommends that CACs enforce 3CCR section 6770 (Field Entry After Pesticide Application) and section 6738(c) (Personal Protective Equipment) in a manner that allows the proper use of separable glove liners.

If persons are using glove liners improperly CACs should cite the responsible person for violation of 3CCR section 6738 (c)(2).

Question 1

Since this change stems from a change in the federal Worker Protection Standard does it only apply to production agricultural use?

Answer: No, the allowed exemptions would apply to non-production agriculture and non- agricultural uses as well as production agricultural uses.

Question 2

Can handlers or early entry workers use flocked gloves or gloves with attached linings?

Answer: No, only glove liners that are separate from the chemical resistant glove may be used.

Question 3

Can glove liners be washed and reused?

Answer: No. DPR agrees with U.S. EPA that re-laundered liners are not sufficiently protective because there is no certainty that laundering a glove liner would remove all contaminants. Any contaminants left behind would be in close, occluded contact with the worker's skin the next time the liners and glove are donned.

Excerpts from the Code of Federal Regulation Part 170 - Worker Protection Standard

Sec. 170.112 Entry restrictions.

* * * * * (c) * * *

(4) * * *

- (vii)(A) Gloves shall be of the type specified on the pesticide product labeling. Gloves made of leather, cotton, or other absorbent materials must not be worn for early-entry activities, unless gloves made of these materials are listed as acceptable for such use on the product labeling. If chemical-resistant gloves with sufficient durability and suppleness are not obtainable, leather gloves may be worn on top of chemical-resistant gloves. However, once leather gloves have been worn for this use, they shall not be worn thereafter for any other purpose, and they shall only be worn over chemical-resistant gloves.
- (B) Separable glove liners may be worn beneath chemical-resistant gloves, unless the pesticide product labeling specifically prohibits their use. Separable glove liners are defined as separate glove-like hand coverings made of lightweight material, with or without fingers. Work gloves made from lightweight cotton or poly-type material are considered to be glove liners if worn beneath chemical-resistant gloves. Separable glove liners may not extend outside the chemical-resistant gloves under which they are worn. Chemical-resistant gloves with non-separable absorbent lining materials are prohibited.
- (C) If used, separable glove liners must be discarded immediately after a total of no more than 10 hours of use or within 24 hours of when first put on, whichever comes first. The liners must be replaced immediately if directly contacted by pesticide. Used glove liners shall not be reused. Contaminated liners must be disposed of in accordance with any Federal, State, or local regulations.
- 3. Section 170.240 is amended by revising paragraphs (c)(5) and (d)(6)(i) to read as follows:

Sec. 170.240 Personal protective equipment.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(5)(i) Gloves shall be of the type specified on the pesticide product labeling. Gloves made of leather, cotton, or other absorbent materials may not be worn while mixing, loading, applying, or otherwise handling pesticides, unless gloves made of these materials are listed

as acceptable for such use on the product labeling.

- (ii) Separable glove liners may be worn beneath chemical-resistant gloves, unless the pesticide product labeling specifically prohibits their use. Separable glove liners are defined as separate glove-like hand coverings, made of lightweight material, with or without fingers. Work gloves made from lightweight cotton or poly-type material are considered to be glove liners if worn beneath chemical-resistant gloves. Separable glove liners may not extend outside the chemical-resistant gloves under which they are worn. Chemical-resistant gloves with non-separable absorbent lining materials are prohibited.
- (iii) If used, separable glove liners must be discarded immediately after a total of no more than 10 hours of use or within 24 hours of when first put on, whichever comes first. The liners must be replaced immediately if directly contacted by pesticide. Used glove liners shall not be reused. Contaminated liners must be disposed of in accordance with any Federal, State, or local regulations.
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 - (d) * * *
- (6) Aerial application--(i) Use of gloves. The wearing of chemical-resistant gloves when entering or leaving an aircraft used to apply pesticides is optional, unless such gloves are required on the pesticide product labeling. If gloves are brought into the cockpit of an aircraft that has been used to apply pesticides, the gloves shall be kept in an enclosed container to prevent contamination of the inside of the cockpit.

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